CIDAC 00583
Centro de Documentação
1986
TL 4801

UNITED NATIONS

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/17592
29 October 1985

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 OCTOBER 1985 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the attached statement in regard to the question of East Timor and further to request that these documents be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rafael BRANCO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 7 August 1985 from Mr. José Ramos Horta addressed to the Secretary-General

Acting upon instructions from H.E. Kay Rala X. Gusmão, President of the Revolutionary Council of National Resistance (CRRN) and Commander-in-Chief of East Timor National Liberation Armed Forces (FALINTIL), I have the honour to transmit to you the following statement in regard to the question of East Timor:

"1. The people of East Timor have been subjected, for the past 10 years, to a brutal military occupation which has denied us our right to self-determination and independence, as provided for in the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), as well as in the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the question of East Timor.

"2. By virtue of the Charter and the above-mentioned resolutions, East Timor is a subject of international responsibility. The right of our people to national self-determination is fully recognized.

"3. The FRETILIN leadership and the people of East Timor wholeheartedly welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution 37/30, in as much as it provided the basis for a possible peaceful solution to the conflict in East Timor which has already cost 200,000 East Timorese lives and the lives of thousands of Indonesian soldiers killed in combat.

"4. The people of East Timor are the party most 'directly concerned'. Through the FRETILIN leadership based in the liberated areas of East Timor and its plenipotentiary representatives abroad, the people of East Timor claim their legitimate right to be consulted about their very future.

"5. The people of East Timor, comprised of different cultural, social and religious backgrounds, are united around the sacred principle of and right to self-determination. This profound unity has enabled the resistance to pursue unabatedly the struggle for national liberation in spite of the overwhelming odds.

"6. For the reasons stated above, the FRETILIN leadership declares that it is available for consultations, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 37/30. Just as much as we welcomed in good faith and with open arms an Indonesian military delegation in our liberated areas in March 1983, we are again reiterating our willingness to meet with Indonesian officials representing the central government and Portuguese officials, in the framework of the mandate entrusted to Your Excellency by the General Assembly through its resolution 37/30.

"7. CRRN, the highest politico-military body of FRETILIN, in which East Timorese of all political, cultural and religious background are represented, adopted by unanimity a 'peace plan' which could provide the basis for a just and lasting solution to the problem (see appendix I).

"8. CRRN is acutely aware of Indonesia's national interests, security concerns and dignity. It is also acutely aware of the concern of the ASEAN States and those of the South Pacific Forum, about peace and stability in the region. In line with this, CRRN is prepared to provide any and all the countries in our immediate vicinity with concrete guarantees of our full co-operation for the sake of peace and stability in the South-East Asia and South Pacific regions.

"9. Last but not least I wish to express to Your Excellency our trust in and respect for your high office and your personal integrity and ability to discharge the responsibilities given to you by the international community. We are conscious of the delicate and complex process of consultations you have been entrusted with by the General Assembly. Please rest assured of our full co-operation in your efforts to uphold the sacred principles of the Charter.

"Eastern Military Sector in East Timor, 20 July 1985.

Kay Rala Xanana GUSMÃO
President of CRRN
Commander-in-Chief of FALINTIL"

(Signed) José Ramos HORTA
Member, CRRN,
Secretary, Department of
International Relations

Appendix

FRETILIN peace plan

I. INTRODUCTION

Between 20 and 23 March 1983, in the liberated territory of East Timor controlled by FALINTIL (the armed forces for the national liberation of East Timor), FRETILIN and Indonesia decided to begin a process of dialogue. The objective was to end the eight-year-long war which was still far from over.

FRETILIN has always considered negotiations as the best way to achieve a definite overall solution which would respect the interests of the Maubere people and the States of the region. Only the adventurism of the Indonesian military hawks led the Indonesian and Maubere peoples into a war during which both peoples have been sacrificed, suffering incalculable material, human and moral losses.

Under the leadership of FRETILIN the Maubere people have responded to the genocidal war directed by the Indonesian generals with a war of national resistance. They have thus proved their capacity and determination to fight to safeguard their legitimate interests and just aspirations.

When, at the beginning of 1983, Indonesia showed its willingness to begin preliminary negotiations with FRETILIN, a new chapter in the history of the Maubere people began - a chapter with the perspective for peace that both peoples had longed for.

Through its supreme politico-military command, the Revolutionary Council of National Resistance (CRRN), FRETILIN presented to the Indonesian Government its peace plan whose application would guarantee, on the other hand, respect for the rights of the Maubere people and their freely expressed will and, on the other, a possibility for other countries interested in the East Timor problem to follow the process. Thus, on 10 May 1983, the President of the Revolutionary Council of National Resistance and Commander-in-Chief of FALINTIL, Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão issued a press statement which included the following:

> "FRETILIN DECLARES that the Maubere people are conscious of their insertion in South-East Asia. FRETILIN declares that, because of this, it has never desired, does not and never will desire that East Timor should be a focus for the spread of conflicts. East Timor is a non-aligned country and follows a policy of good neighbourliness. These principles will regulate its relations with all countries and strengthen the links of technical, economic and cultural co-operation with its neighbours. The Maubere peoples know that they must respect the interests of their neighbours and also believe that their own legitimate interests will be respected".

Despite the recommencement of hostility by Indonesia and its unilateral breaking of the cease-fire agreed on 23 March 1983, there is no doubt that this peace plan represents a fundamental instrument for the political and diplomatic action of the Maubere people. Its conception in the heat of armed struggle is a guarantee of its maturity, gained in the accumulation of eight years of political struggle.

II. PEACE PLAN

I. With the mediation of the United Nations Secretary-General, direct talk among Portugal, Indonesia and the Revolutionary Council of National Resistance, representing FRETILIN and non-FRETILIN members, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 37/30, to explore:

(a) The creation of a multinational peace-keeping force, whose impartiality would be an indispensable condition for guaranteeing and putting into practice:

(i) A transition administration;

(ii) The correct implementation of decisions taken during discussions on the positioning of the opposing forces - FALINTIL and the Indonesian armed forces;

(b) The organization of free and democratic consultation of the Maubere people;

(c) Setting a date for the transfer of sovereignty.

II. Governments of the South Pacific Forum and ASEAN are invited to participate in the talks as observers.

III. Other observers may be accepted if proposed in equal number by each of the parties referred to in I and agreed to by all.

IV. No pre-conditions are set by CRRN to initiate preliminary talks with the Government of Indonesia with a view to exploring other avenues for a comprehensive settlement of the Timor problem.